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S.B. No. 873 – An Act Concerning Colon Hydrotherapy Services

Testimony of Beverley Blass

Public Health Committee Public Hearing February 20, 2013

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and Members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Beverley Blass and I reside at 12 Fairway, West Hartford, CT 06117. I would like to give my support to S.B. No. 873 which creates a public registry of Connecticut Colon Hydrotherapists.

I have been a colon hydrotherapist since 1984 and have been certified by the International Association for Colon Hydrotherapy [I-ACT] since 2005, having trained at all four I-ACT levels, including Instructor Level. I have also been certified by the National Board of Colon Hydrotherapy [NBCHT] since 2010.

Since 2011, I have been serving on the I-ACT Board of Directors and am a member of the Board's Senior Education Committee. I have helped to create and modify the Instructor Syllabus, increasing the level of education and hours required for certification. We are also presently reviewing all training levels because education and safety are our greatest concerns. The health and wellbeing of our clients is what we all agree on is first and foremost. This is why we are here. We are striving to regulate our profession, holding it to the highest standards. We have been continuously working on this for many years and will continue to do so.

When I decided to pursue colon hydrotherapy as my chosen profession, there was no I-ACT or other training institution, no By-Laws, Operating Procedures, Guidelines or in-depth, hands-on training as has been developed by I-ACT. I was mentored and trained originally by a Naturopath in New York City, and have been fortunate to have worked with MDs and Chiropractors that have witnessed the benefits of colon hydrotherapy and support our profession. As organized and structured education for colon hydrotherapists became available, I completed the training through the highest level, took the exams, and have continued to educate myself as I enjoy my career, both as an Instructor for Colon Hydrotherapy and as a Colon Hydrotherapist.

With regards to the Profession of Colon Hydrotherapy, there is no evidence of any guidelines in the laws or regulations of the State of Connecticut or New York or their Departments of Health. Connecticut currently does not have any laws or regulations relating to offering colon hydrotherapy services. After many years as a colon hydrotherapist, I did some research and have found that I-ACT and the NBCHT provide significant guidelines and training on how to practice colon hydrotherapy in a safe and healthy manner. Training of this sort is not included in the years of training doctors receive, so medical professionals would themselves have to seek out training of the caliber provided through I-ACT and the NBCHT.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the creation and passage of a Colon Hydrotherapist Registry in the State of Connecticut. I believe that such a registry will ensure that the certified professionals who offer colon hydrotherapy services will be doing so in the safest and most professional manner. I am confident that this could lead the way for other states to have a registry, enabling those seeking our services to receive the best care possible.

If I can answer any questions you may have concerning this issue, please contact me by email or by calling me at 860-680-4151.

Sincerely,

Beverley Blass
I-ACT Board of Directors
I-ACT Certified Instructor & Colon Hydrotherapist
NBCHT Certified